## **CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

 A method for obtaining efficient RNA silencing of a target gene comprising: introducing a recombinant gene into a host comprising a silenced locus and the target gene, wherein

the recombinant gene comprises a region homologous with the silenced locus and the target gene has homology with the recombinant gene, but has no significant homology with the silenced locus,

thus RNA silencing the target gene.

- 2. The method according to claim 1 wherein the host comprises a plant cell.
- 3. The method according to claim 1 wherein the RNA silencing of the target gene is obtained in more than 95% of the hosts.
- 4. The method according to claim 2 wherein the RNA silencing of the target gene is obtained in more than 95% of the hosts.
- 5. The method according to claim 1 wherein RNA silencing of the target gene is obtained in more than 85% of the hosts.
- 6. The method according to claim 2 wherein RNA silencing of the target gene is obtained in more than 85% of the hosts.
- 7. The method according to claim 1 wherein the RNA silencing of the target gene occurs at an efficiency of more than 95% as compared to the level of the unsilenced expression of the target gene.

- 8. The method according to claim 2 wherein the RNA silencing of the target gene occurs at an efficiency of more than 95% as compared to the level of the unsilenced expression of the target gene.
- 9. The method according to claim 1 wherein the RNA silencing of the target gene occurs at an efficiency of more than 85 % as compared to the level of the unsilenced expression of the target gene.
- 10. The method according to claim 2 wherein the RNA silencing of the target gene occurs at an efficiency of more than 85 % as compared to the level of the unsilenced expression of the target gene.
  - 11. The method according to claim 1 to obtain high throughput gene silencing.
  - 12. The method according to claim 2 to obtain high throughput gene silencing.
- 13. A plant or plant cell comprising a silenced target gene obtainable by the method according to claim 1.